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- 1. An ink transfer mechanism for a printing press including a supply roller to collect ink from a liquid supply, a primary flow metering device to produce a primary flow of said ink carried by said roller, and a secondary flow metering device spaced from said primary flow metering device to provide a secondary flow on said roller, whereby a difference in the flow of said liquid between said metering devices is supplied to a flow output.
- 2. An ink transfer mechanism according to claim 1, wherein said secondary flow metering device includes a blade portion.
- 3. An ink transfer mechanism according to claim 1, wherein said secondary flow metering device is biased towards said supply roller.
- 4. An ink transfer mechanism according to claim 2, wherein said secondary flow metering device moves between an operative position which provides a predetermined separation distance between said blade portion and an outer surface of said supply roller, and a retracted position.
- 5. An ink transfer mechanism according to claim 2, wherein said blade portion includes a contoured surface portion.
- 6. An ink transfer mechanism according to claim 5, wherein said contoured surface portion is arcuate.
- 7. An ink transfer mechanism according to claim 3, wherein a predetermined magnitude of said separation distance is maintained by an element located between said exterior surface and said blade portion.
- 8. A method of metering ink from a supply roller of a printing press including the steps of: metering of a flow of said ink onto said supply roller to produce a primary flow, metering of said primary flow transferred by said supply roller to produce a secondary flow, directing a difference

between said primary flow and said secondary flow from a surface of said supply roller to produce a tertiary flow.

- 9. A metering device to monitor the return flow of ink to an ink supply of a printing press.
- 10. The metering device of claim 9, wherein said metering device includes a body and a blade portion connected to said body.
- 11. A metering device according to claim 10, wherein an end portion of said blade portion is arcuate.
- 12. The metering device of claim 10, wherein said blade portion includes a contoured surface having an entrance region, a middle region, and an exit region.
- 13. A metering device according to claim 12, wherein said entrance region contains a shallow angle of less than 20 degrees with respect to an adjacent surface.
- 14. A patering device according to claim 10, wherein an end portion of said blade portion includes a corner region to promote separation of ink flow along said end portion.